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THE VISITORS' BOOK.



VAJESHANKER GOWERISHANKER
MUSEUM.



BHAVNAGAR.



PRINTED AT

The "Sarasvati" P. Press—Bhavnagar.



PREFACE.

More than fifty years ago, I had the pleasure of meeting the late Dr. Bhau Daji and Pandit Bhagavanlal Indarji in Bombay. Both these gentlemen were great antiquarian scholars. Since then whenever I had an occasion to go to Bombay on business, I used to see them frequently and the closer, I came into contact with them, the more was roused in me a taste for antiquities and antiquarian researches. In consequence where of, I began to collect coins, copper-plates and manuscripts. Thus the origin of my collection of antiquities is mainly due to my friends the late Dr. Bhau Daji and Pandit Bhagavanlal.

Some fifteen years later my collection was shown to Late Colonel. Watson, the then President Rajasthanik Court Kathiawad, and after words Political Agent of Kathiawad and a great friend of my venerable father Murbi Shri Gavarishanker Udayshanker Oza C. S. I. & a great well wisher of our family, and he impelled me to continue my antiquarian researches and advised me to arrange and classify my collections in a systematic manner. This officer was himself a scholar of antiquities and he used very kindly to inspect my collections whenever he came to Bhavnagar

and thus helped me in my work. Being thus encouraged I devoted my leisure hours to this work and I was able to collect a modest number of copper-plates, inscriptions, manuscripts, fossils and works on antiquities to form a private museum & library, with the help of able co-workers mainly supplied by H. H. The Maharaja Saheb of Bhavnagar who took a keen interest in this work and used to visit the collection and inspect the same

This museum is located in Gavrishanker Watika, the garden-residence of my revered father during his third and fourth A'shrams. Every distinguished visitor who came to Bhavnagar generally came to see the Swamiji and before leaving the Watika was offered an opportunity of seeing this museum. Consequently it has ever since A. D. 1884 been a place of visit from many a distinguished visitor to Bhavnagar and most of them have expressed their satisfaction at seeing the collection, as will appear from the following pages taken from the Visitors' Book kept at the suggestion of Dr. E. Hultzsch P. H. D. and printed at the request of some of the visitors.

Amongst the distinguished visitors will be found the names of His Royal Highness Prince Albert Vic-

tor, H. E. Sir James Fergusson, H. E. Lord Reay, H. E. Lord Sandhurst, the successive Governors of Bombay Presidency as also of Dadabhai Navroji of wide fame. Sir Phirojsha Merwanji Meheta, Gavarishanker Jha, Antiquarian Udaypur State, Sir Edwin Arnold, Dr. Leitner and Jas Burgess.

In conclusion I take this opportunity to express my heart felt thanks to Mr. Bhau Daji and Pandit Bhagavanlal for creating a taste of antiquities in me; to Col. Watson for impelling me on to my work of collecting and last but therefore not the least to His Highness Sir Bhavsinhji K. C. S. I. Maharaja Saheb of Bhavnagar for rendering me every assistance in this useful and interesting work.

Bhavnagar.
14 August 1914
Janmashtami } **Vajeshanker Gavarishanker.**



Mr. Vajeshanker's extensive collection of Indian antiquities consists of inscriptions coins, sculptures and fossils. The last named are very numerous and would be most important to a geologist. The coins belong to all periods of Indian history and are arranged in a masterly manner. The collection of Fac Similes of Hindu and Musalman inscriptions with rough additions is unparalleled and worthy of so able a scholar and antiquarian as Mr. Vajeshanker (in great hurry.)

Bhavnagar 18th. November 1884.

E. HULTZSCH. PH. D.

Professor, Vienna

University.

Late superintendent of

archeological survey

Madras

Presidency.

I was very happy to be able to visit the venerable and respected Mr. Gourishanker in his own house and I saw with interest his valuable collection of ancient manucripts, Sculptures coins etc. which has already become famous.

25th. November. 1884.

(Sd) JAMES FERGUSSON.

Governor of Bombay.

I have had the pleasure of making Mr. Gourishanker's acquaintance and of seeing his excellent collection of Perim fossils during our annual geological excursion 1885.

January 16th. 1885.

T. COOKE L. L. D. F. G. G.
Principal college of Science
POONA.

I have had the pleasure and honour of making the acquaintance of Mr. Gowrishanker during our geological **Excursion** 1885 and much admired the collection of fossils he had.

January 16th. 1885.

N. A. MOOS. L. B. E.
Lecturer College of Science.
POONA.

PROFESSOR S. COOKE
College of Science
POONA.

17 January 1885

I have had the pleasure and honour of making Mr. Gowrishanker's acquaintance since I have been in Bhavnagar and I have inspected his collection of coins etc. with the utmost interest. I trust that it will extend and that the venerable Mr. Gowrishanker will be as well and hearty as he is now on my next visit to Kathiawar.

A. STEWARD.

Post Master General.

Bombay Presidency.

I have had the greatest pleasure in inspecting Mr. Gowrishanker's fine collection of coins etc. which is the best I have seen in this neighbourhood.

Bhavnagar 19th. Feb. 1885.

ALEX. CARNEGIE MAJ.

General Commanding

Northern Division.

I have had very great pleasure in seeing Mr. Vajeshanker's very fine collection of coins, copper plates, fossils and sculptures. I have never seen so fine a private collection in India. 20-2-85.

E. GILES.

Educational Inspector

Northern Division.

Presidency Bombay.

I have twice inspected Mr. Vajeshanker's valuable and interesting collection of fossils, antiquities etc. His fossils are well known to the scientific world from the notices given of some of them in the memoirs of the geological survey of India. It is wonderful how Mr. Vajeshanker amid all his absorbing work has been able to collect and arrange so well this large number of coins, fossils, and antiquities.

Bhavnagar 7th. March 1885.

(Sd) EDMOND W. WEST.

Political Agent Kathiawar.

(Sd) F. H. Jackson.

I have had the greatest pleasure in seeing Mr. Vajeshanker's most interesting and valuable collection and immensely admire the skill and industry he has exercised in making it.

16th. March 1885.

C. E. G. CRAWFORD.

During my short stay in Bhavnagar I have had the greatest pleasure in seeing Rajeshri Vajeshankerbhai's scientific and interesting collection of old coins, copper-plates, manuscripts, fossils, sculpture, etc. Some of them are very old and Rajeshri Vajeshankerbhai must have taken great pains and trouble in collecting them. This is the best and the only collection in Kathiawad that I know of.

Bhavnagar 26-3-85.

THAKORDAS KIKABHAI

L. M. & S.

Spent a very pleasant 15 minutes in seeing Mr. Vajeshanker's interesting and valuable collection of antiquarian curiosities. Not the less pleasant was the extensive knowledge displayed by the owner in his rare curios. Here he has the nucleus of a museum which any state or Government institution may well envy.

W. A. M. SITOSH.

Prof. & Editor Punjab

HERALD DELHI.

I am so very much pleased to have had the opportunity of seeing my venerable and kind friend Mr. Gowrishanker in his own house. He has deserved well of Kathiawad generally and of the state of Bhavnagar particularly as I understand Bhavnagar owes much indeed to him. My visit has been rendered the more interesting by the sight of the curious and excellent antiquarian museum of my good friend Mr. Vajeshanker. I felt the greater interest in it that most of the geological and mineral specimens as well as the most of the antiquarian curiosities are from Bhavnagar territory it self.

18th. July 1885.

DADABHAI NAWROJEE.

It was with great pleasure that I this evening visited the house of Mr. Gowrishanker and his son Mr. Vajeshanker whom I have long had the pleasure and privilege of reckoning among my friends. Mr. Vajeshanker very kindly showed us his valuable collection of fossils, coins, copper-plates and inscriptions which are very interesting and very well arranged. It is not often that one sees so good a collection of antiquities in a private house. Mrs. Macnaughten wishes me to testify to the pleasure which she likewise derived from this after noon visit and she joins me in every best wish for the family all four generations ?

27th. September 1885

CHESTER MACNAUGHTEN.

Of my visit to Kathiawad one of the deepest records should be the kindness with which I was received in the house of the very meritorious illustrious Gowrishanker where it was possible for me to admire how the noblest was transmitted through three generations and where I found collected all the kindness and the science of the most flourishing state of Kathiawad.

6th. November 1885, Bhavnagar.

COUNT ANGELO DE GUBERNATES
Professor of Sanskrit in Florence
the town of flowers.

It has given me great pleasure indeed to meet again after many years with Mr. Gowrishanker Udayashanker C. S. I. and to inspect the library and very interesting and important collections of fossils, coins, copper-plate grants and impressions of inscriptions. The coins contain many excellent examples of Kshatrapa Judoskythian and Bactrian types well deserving of publication and the very large collection of Sanscrit and other inscriptions is about the largest of the kind in-existence and it is to be hoped my friend Mr. Vajeshanker Gowrishanker the collector and owner of the whole will be able by and by to publish its contents for the illucidation of the history of this part of the Indian Continent.

Bhavnagar 10th. December 1885

JAS. BURGESS C. I. E. L. L. D.
Govt. Archeological Survey.

I esteem it a special privilege while in this hospitable capital to have made the acquaintance of the venerable and accomplished Mr. Gowrishankar Udayashankar C. S. I. I found him full of years and honours amid a noble collection of Sanskrit MSS books inscriptions antiquities und natural history objects all testifying to the enlightened tastes which he has mingled with the lofty public labour of his useful career. I consider my self honoured by having clasped his hand and placed my name in the Ex Dewan " Visitor's book " as a distinction to my self and as an opportunity of recording my admiration of his character.

Bhavnagar 12th. December 1885.

EDWIN ARNOLD C. S. I. M. A.

Officer of the white Eliphant of Siam.

The Mehjidich } of Turkey.
The Osmanich }

It has been my fortune to pay my respects to Mr. Gowrishanker Udayashanker C. S. I. a very venerable old gentleman so remarkably known throughout and it affords me very great pleasure to record that I found the much respected gentleman to be exceedingly charitable and thoroughly cultured in many directions. I feel peculiarly agreeable to state that I had the pleasure of having a glance of the very valuable collections of fossils, copper-plates etc. made by his son Mr. Vajeshanker Gowrishanker. It is indeed very gratifying to see our natives interested in an useful institution like this. I hope his example will be followed by many who are in a position to start institutions like this. It surely reflects a great credit to Mr. Vajeshanker Gowrishanker.

BHAVNAGAR.	}	KALICHARANDAS GUPTA B. A.
30th December 1885		Culcutta A. B.

I had very great pleasure yesterday in seeing and talking to the venerable Ex. Minister of this state and distinguished Vedantist Mr. Gowrishanker. I have long desired to know him. I have also had the pleasure of inspecting Mr. Vajeshanker's valuable collections of coins, and antiquities. No one can visit the peninsula and fail to see how much remains to be done in the way of bringing to light records of antiquities which in the neglect of age has left undisturbed. Mr. Vajeshanker has made a splendid beginning and I earnestly trust that the enlightened and munificent Bhavnagar Government will encourage him and other workers to prosecute this important work.

20th March 1886

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PETER PETERSON
Elphinstone College
Prof. of Sanskrit

I paid a visit to Bhavnagar and during two days I could see many things through the kindness of R. B. Gowrishanker C. S. I. Nearly all the improvements which have taken place in the state owe their origin to the wisdom of the successful minister who leads now a retired life after a long and laborious service. His fame is spread not only on this state but through out Kathiawad. I am much obliged to him for his kindness, politeness and the anxiety which he showed to make me acquainted with all the reforms which he has introduced in commerce, education and general administration. His two sons Messrs. Vajeshanker and Prabhashanker were very kind in accompanying me to show useful institutions and public edifices worthy of note. They have a taste for scientific pursuits and their collection of manuscripts, fossils, shells, coins, copper-plates etc. are very interesting.

20th March 1886 }
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GOPALROW HURRY.
 Deshmukh.

I consider it a privilege to have known Mr. Gowrishanker Udayashanker the venerable Bhavnagar Statesman under whose regime the state had attained to such excellence and prosperity. And it was highly interesting to me to have been shown over the unique collection of ancient coins and inscriptions by his courteous and kindly son Mr. Vajeshanker. My short stay in Bhavnagar has been rendered doubly pleasant by this visit to the house of Mr. Gowrishanker.

26th March 1886 }

J. E. MODI.

I had an honour of an interview with Mr. Gowrishanker and an interesting half hour among his collections of ancient coins and curiosities—a pleasure hardly anticipated when I arrived in Bhavnagar.

10th April 1886 }

FRS. O' SHEA.
Postal Dept.

One of the pleasantest half hours I have spent in Kathiawad has been in the museum of Mr. Vajeshanker. The coins, fossils and copper-plates are I should imagine priceless and would make an antiquarian die happy.

BHAVNAGAR. }
25th July 1886 }

W. BUTLER FERRIS.
Asst. Poli. Agent,
Kathiawad.

I had the honour of visiting Mr. Vajeshanker's museum hall and am glad to say that Mr. Vajeshanker has taken much pains in collecting and arranging various specimens of old Indian coins, fossils and manuscripts written on palm leaves and copper-plates. Besides the collection of Jain idols has given me much pleasure.

1-8-86 }

KHUSHALCHAND S.
A visitor from Surat.

I have experienced a great and wholly unexpected intellectual treat to day in the visit which through the kindness of Mr. Vajeshanker; I have been enabled to pay to that gentleman's Museum.

1st December 1886 }
District judge
COLOMBO.

J. BERWICH.
D. J. COLOMBO.

Having had the pleasure of a long conversation with the veteran and distinguished Ex.—Dewan I was unable to do justice to the remarkable collection of his son but I was made fully aware of the treasures it contains and admired the learning which had inspired its collection. I trust the collection may be made accessible to the increasing number of students of Indian antiquities whose gratitude will be the owner's never failing satisfaction.

December 16th 1886 }

REAY.
Governor of Bombay.

I have seen the valuable collection of antiquities with the greatest interest and I shall now read the books kindly given to me describing the contents of the museum all more or less memoranda of the history of Kathiawad of its races, its princes, its geology especially of Bhavnagar.

16th December 1886 }

YYJ. L. REAY.

I have seen the museum with great pleasure but I have not been able to give my attention to it as I should have desired as my thoughts have been full of my old friend Gowrishanker and of how he is to spend his days of retirement. I am not satisfied to see him living in a room. He ought to live in a garden with one or two rooms attached—in the room nothing grows there is no object to love if he transfers himself to a garden he cannot but watch the plants and in their growth and their youth forget his own age I could not live in a palace but I some times think that I could be happy even if shut up in a very small garden and the large one would soon become a world full of life and death and all the changes incidental to growth and necessary to happiness and forgetfulness of self.

18th December }

R. H. KEATINGE.

We have had the great pleasure and honour of visiting the old and venerable Dewansahab Gowrishanker now for future ages to be known and remembered by the learned and pious men of future times as Swami Sachhidanand.

We had also the pleasure of being shown over the very excellent collection of coins, Mss, fossils, etc. made by Mr Vajeshanker. We have simply to express our admiration of the collection which has been pronounced to be so useful and valuable by abler men.

Rhavnagar.	}	N. Spencer
27th. December 1886		Judge Court of Small Causes.
		Jamsetjee A. Dalal M. A.
		Principal Gujarat College.
		Ahmedabad.

We had the extreme good fortune to pay our respects to the Late illustrious minister of Bhavnagar the revered Mr. Gowrishanker during our stay in the hospitable capital of His Highness the Maharaja of Bhavnagar. It is only very rarely that one has the luck to meet with such a man as Mr. Gowrishanker who is the living history of Kathiawad for the past half a century. His name echoes from one corner of India to the other and worthier pens than mine have spoken of him and of the fine collection of coins, sculpture, inscriptions etc. made by his son Mr. Vajeshanker which we have also seen so that it would be quite impertinent for us to try to have eloquent over the subject. With these few remarks we express our sincere gratitude and heart-felt thanks for the very interesting hours that we passed here.

Bhavnagar. }
9th. January 1887 }

SIDHESHARNATH Dc.
Swadesh Mitter.
Delegate Mahabhart
Society Calcutta.

It has been a source of much pleasure to me to make the acquaintance of the venerable Mr. Gowrishanker whose wonderful memory takes him back almost to the beginning of this century and who personally remembers all the notable characters of our rule during that time in Western India. I have also seen with great interest the fine collection made by his son who has with great kindness explained them to me so far as is possible in a short visit.

WILLIAM DUCAT

Col. R. E.

The retirement of a great minister of state like Mr. Gowrishanker at the end of the illustrious and successful career of public usefulness into the privacy require for religious meditation and spiritual growth is an example that may well be held out for respectful imitation to those whose higher instincts have survived the pursuit of worldly affairs. A true Brahmin in intellect, morality, knowledge, and goodness the venerable Sanyashi whose mind is as clear and vigorous as ever inspires even more profound respect among those who approach him than when he rendered to his state right loyal service in the midst of the brilliancy of the Delhi Imperial Assemblage. A worthy father of worthy children he has the satisfaction of seeing his son Mr. Vajeshanker enjoy the esteem of learned men for his antiquarian researches as illustrated by an interesting and varied collection. Mr. Gowrishanker who reminds one of Cardinal maning, surely must feel that even in his retirement the blessings of the many whom he has benefitted, must follow him and that he "is never less alone than when alone" for he is surrounded by the good wishes and respect of "all that should accompany old age." As honour, love, obedient, troops of friends who whether Europeans or natives wish the veteren statesman and Sanyashi many more years of a life of religious meditation and of prayer for the good of his country and of its ancient learning.

Bhavnagar.

27th. 1-87

}

G. W. Leitner.

L. L. D. D. Ch.

Principal of the oriental
institute woking England.

I have had the great pleasure of visiting Mr. Gowrishanker and of seeing his valuable and artistic collection.

13th. Feb. 1887	}	J. W. Burkley Colonel Agent Governor General Baroda.
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It gave me very great pleasure yesterday to visit my old friend Mr. Gowrishanker Udayshanker C. S. I. and to find his memory as good and his intelligence as active as I remember them in my younger days. His health too seems capital. Afterwards his son Mr. Vajeshanker took me over his museum and explained everything to me showing a very perfect knowledge of the various fossils, coins, etc. which he has with so much trouble got together. He further informed me that it is his intention when the new Provincial museum at Rajkote is completed to send his very valuable collection to it. This will at once give that museum a start such as few new institutions of the sort, can boast of and should ensure his name being as well remembered there with, as his father's is in the Political world.

Bhavnagar.	}	Charles Woodhouse Col.
13th April 1887	}	Acting Political Agent.

I have to-day had the pleasure of looking over Mr. Vajeshanker's collection of coins· inscriptions, foosils etc. Unlike many private collections which are graves rather than museums of antiquities; this is arranged and classified with care and neatness and by catalouguing and publishing its contents; he is making the information contained in it available to others interested in the study of antiquities

Bhavnagar. }
1st May 1887 }

W. Y. Cousins.
in Charge Government
Archeological Survey of W. I.

I have had great pleasure in renewing my acquaintance with Divan Gowrishanker and am very glad to find that he is keeping so well. For the first time I have had the opportunity of seeing the wonderfully interesting collection gathered together by Mr. Vajeshanker. It is to be hoped that some other gentlemen in Kathiawad will follow the example set by him. The country must be a rich mine for archeological discoveries

15 Oct. 87

}

James Reid.

Being desired to give my humble opinion on the excellent museum started by Mr. Vajeshanker Gowrishanker Oza in his bungalow outside the town of Bhavnagar I feel highly honoured though quite unfit to do so. I may however state that the most valuable collection and arrangement of ancient inscriptions, coins, fossils, copper-plates etc. does great credit to the intelligent keen perception and discrimination of Mr. Vajeshanker who could devote his leisure hours to such valuable and useful antiquarian researches among his multifarious state duties nor does the important collections of books on antiquities not only of India but of many other countries of Asia do credit to the worthy gentleman.

18-6-87 }

Gopalji S. Desai.

I have had the pleasure of visiting the archeological, geological, and other historic collections, gathered by Rao Saheb Vajeshanker of Bhavnagar. The collection is indeed unique amongst those I have hitherto met with in several parts of India. Indeed it reflects great credit to the gentleman who has taken so much pains and displayed a special aptitude in collecting a mass of such rare antiquities which ever known to Europeans and continental geologists; they would take the trouble of visiting, inspecting and collecting other valuable information in connection with the geological history of the fossils, etc. etc. of the districts to which they relate.

15—10—87 }

K. B. BAMANJI SORABJI

C. E. F. H. D. Bavaria.

I cannot adequately express my gratification at being able to pay my respects to my old and venerable friend Mr. Gowrishanker C. S. I. who has much to his credit, assumed the pious name of Swamijee Sachchidanand Saraswati. His unrivalled knowledge of politics and religion is much to be admired particularly at the advanced age to which he has arrived. I am under great obligation to him and his family for the great hospitilaty shown to me. The wonderful and interesting collections of coins, and copper-plates collected by his respected son Mr. Vajeshankerbhai are much to be admired and this gentleman deserves highest credit for the trouble he has taken-

21st. Oct. 1887.

RANCHODLAL CHHOTALAL:

The two interviews which I have had with Mr. Gowrishanker have been to me deeply interesting and I shall long remember the hour that I have spent in listening to the veteran statesman as he told over again " The story of his wars." He has indeed been the Sir Salarzung of Bhavnagar only more fortunate than that great statesman in as much as his efforts to obtain a rendition of alienated rights were crowned with success. May he long be spared to guide with his wise counsels the ruler of a state which he has done so much to make the model state of Kathiawad.

November 16th. 1887.

T. J. BENETT

Times of India.

I was highly delighted to see the venerable old Swamiji Sachchidanand Saraswati formerly Gowrishanker Udayshanker C. S. I. Dewan of Bhavnagar. He is a living history of Kathiawad and his administration seems to have done great good to Bhavnagar State. He received me very kindly and talked in the form of advice on various subject. His son Mr. Prabhashanker showed me over the museum and I was really astonished to see such a nice collection of different coins.

Bhavnagar 15th. December 1887.

CHHATRASING of
Rajpipla State
Rewa Kantha.

वरमेकस्मादनेके जाड्यादियाश्चमोहिमात् ।
दुर्गत्वात्प्रियवादित्वं श्रीलंघिलासमुद्ययात् ॥१॥
इति गौरीशङ्करास्ते भद्रगरे स्थिताः परः ।
जम्बूद्वीपस्यालङ्कारो नैवंनामा महागिरिः ॥२॥

Mes nuitennary felicitations it non plus veou-
nati yant soursin a:ta famitle tont ention du vene-
rable Sannyasi.

During my visit to Bhavnagar it was my valued privilege and delight to visit the venerable and pious Swamiji Sachchidanand Sarswati equally the recipient of genuine respect and esteem in the life of religious retirement as he was formerly in the active pursuit of life. I am indebted to my esteemed friend Azam Vajeshanker for the great gratification he gave me by kindly offering me an inspection of his rare collection of ancient coins, copper-plates, fossils etc. It excited my admiration, great indeed must have been the "labour of love" and pecuniary expenses bestowed with commendable zeal by my friend on the formation of this museum which to inspect is to admire and which has appreciably advanced the interest of history and science.

28th. March 1888.

COOVARJEE KOYAJEE.

I have examined with much satisfaction the very interesting collection of Mr. Vajeshanker Gowrishanker. But my greatest pleasure in revisiting Bhavnagar after the lapse of over thirty years has been in renewing my acquaintance with the venerable Swamiji Sachchidanand Saraswati, my highly esteemed friend the late Dewan Sahib Gowrishanker Udayshanker C. S. I. It is remarkable to find in one so aged and who has laboured so unremittingly as he has done for the good of his state, such vigour of intellect and such freshness of mind and memory I shall carry to my home in England a very pleasant memory of this visit.

14th. April 1888.

JOHN FLEMING C. S. I.

The sole object with which I visited Bhavnagar, was to pay my reverence to the venerable Swamiji Shree Sachchidanand Saraswati the Ex. Dewan of Bhavnagar (Gowrishanker Udayshanker C. S. I.). I had long been hearing from my brother Haridas about his remarkable energy and intelligence and was more satisfied to find him as he was described even at the advanced age of 84, while taking advantage of above visit, I was kindly shown by Mr. Vajeshanker Gowrishanker the very valuable, collection of fossils inscriptions, old coins, copper plates etc. rare in this nature and very interesting in their study. I hope his example may be followed by gentlemen of similar taste and resources.

1st. August 1888, Bhavnagar.

BECHARDAS VIHARIDAS.

Desai of Nadyad.

Mrs. Peterson and myself have had very great pleasure in renewing our acquaintance with the venerable Ex. Minister of this state. His eye is not divided nor his natural strength abated. Long may he live to be the strength even in retirement and the ornament of the state which owes so much to him.

P. PETERSON.

(MRS PETERSON)

(MISS PETERSON.)

I had the pleasure of making Mr. Gowerishanker's acquaintance when he was joint administrator with Mr. Percival 17 years ago and it was a great gratification to me to be able to renew it on the present occasion of a professional visit to Bhavnagar. It was wonderful to see how his mental and intellectual vigour was utterly unimpaired and it was a great pleasure to have a talk with him about past events which his richly stored memory made extremely interesting. It is not to be wondered that the Swami is now esteemed as a venerable institution of this flourishing state whose prosperity owes so much to him.

PHEROZSHAH M MEHTA

18th. January 1889.

Mr. Vajeshanker's rich collection was extremely interesting.

P. M. M.'

I am greatly obliged to Mr. Vajeshanker Gowrishanker for his kindness in showing me his rare and interesting archeological, geological, and historical collection which is highly creditable to his intelligence and research. Mr. Vajeshanker is a son of the venerable Swami Mr. Gowrishanker Udayshanker C. S. I. who for nearly half a century was chief minister of the Bhavnagar State. To him is greatly due the credit of the good name and influence Bhavnagar enjoys among the states of Kathiawad. I first made the acquaintance of Mr. Gowrishanker when I was a boy of 15 years of age as he was a friend of my father. It was a peculiar pleasure to me to renew that acquaintance during my sojourn here. Though he was retired from power he is honoured by sovereign and loved by people of every grade not only in Bhavnagar but in all Kathiawad. His mind at his present age of 84 is as vigorous and clear as ever. He is really the grand old man of Kathiawad. He is a grand philosopher and friend to all who go to seek his advice. He has given me a good deal of information which will prove greatly useful to me during my sojourn in Kathiawad and I am grateful to him for all that he has done for me while I have been in this town.

26th January 1889 }

Dossabhai Faramji of
Bombay.

It is difficult to express in words the real delight we felt in calling this morning. Not only had we the honour of making the acquaintance of and paying homage to Mr. Gowrishanker Udayshanker but our pleasure was quadrupled by meeting his son, his grand son and his great grand son at the same time. Our sincere hope is that each one of these may during the course of his life merit and receive the same respect and affection which are so widely offered to their illustrious head by his friends English as well as Indians. The great principles of order of justice and of education true tastes of wise and farsighted rulers flourish here in a well cultivated soil. To us who have met with so much kindness and courtesy in Bhavnagar it is a source of gratification to feel that these great principles are entrusted to worthy successors who will not let the work of the past decay but will hand it down to posterity unimpaired and improved. We were much interested in Mr. Vajeshanker Gowrishanker's museum with its great variety of valuable objects. They represent much scientific knowledge and bring forcibly to our minds the changing courses of the world's history.

JERSEY.

M. E. Jersey
Villiers.

11th Feb 1889. }

I have seen the valuable collection of coins and other relics of antiquity with great pleasure and interest and am very thankful for it to Mr. Vajeshanker Gowrishanker.

25th December 1889 }

F. R. Vicaji
Bombay.

I have had the pleasure of seeing the curiosities collected by Mr. Vajeshanker Gowrishanker and find many objects of great interest. The coins of which I am able to speak especially and a valuable collection made more valuable by having been found in Kathiawad and not merely a collection made by purchase and amongst them are some which are very rare and I hope will be published. It has given me very great pleasure to have visited Mr. Gowrishanker and I am sure he will advance the study of archeology, and numismatic, by his works of collecting and keeping what is found in the state of antiquarian interest.

2nd. Feb. 1890

Quadrington M. D.

M. R. A. S.

It has been my privilege to visit the venerable Swami. His reminiscences and opinions of the many administrators he has met during his long period of active life are most interesting and instructive.

Feb. 6th 1890.

F. W. PENDERGHAST.

I too had the honour and pleasure of being received by the Swamiji and was much struck by his person.

6-2-90

We had very great pleasure the other day in visiting the venerable Swamiji who is so deservedly honoured for the good work he has done in Bhavnagar. His son's museum also shows a great amount of painstaking research as of those whose thirst for knowledge is sincere and was most interesting even to us who know little of antiquarian research.

8th. March 1890

HELEN E. LELY.



Albert Victor
E. K. Bradford.
March 16th. 1890

I have had a very pleasant visit here this afternoon conversing with the venerable Swami and looking over the valuable collection of archeaological and other specimens which he has got to gether. I shall long remember the interesting occasion.

16-3-90

D. E. Aitken.

I have had very great pleasure in visiting my old friend the venerable Sanyasi and in finding him in good health and with his wonderful memory unimpaired. I trust that he may yet be spared for many years and that I may have the pleasure of meeting him again. Mr. Vajeshanker has also shown me his most interesting museum which is beautifully arranged and devlopes from year to year.

25-3-90

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E. GILES. M. A.
Educational Inspector
N. D.

आना सीनक्लेर.

रमाबाई ढोंगे मेघाणी.

भावनगर ता. ९. १. ९. एमिड. १८९९ इस्वी.

I am very glad to have had the opportunity of visiting Mr. Vajeshanker's house and inspecting his valuable collection of antiquities and of making his acquaintance. Scholars who go to the trouble and expense of bringing together such collections deserve every encouragement especially as the workers in such fields in this country are unfortunately few. His Excellency Lord Sandhurst regrets that his many other engagements do not allow him leisure to inspect Mr. Vajeshanker's collections.

22-4-98	}	A. M. T. JACKSON. Private Secretary to H. E. The Governor.
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I was greatly pleased to see Mr. Vajeshanker Gowrishanker Oza's collection of coins, fossils etc. It is a very interesting museum reflecting credit on Mr. Vajeshanker's antiquarian research. My only regret was that the time at my disposal was too short to allow a careful examination of the interesting articles so beautifully arranged.

22-12-98	}	BHAGAVATSINGHJI. Thakor Sahab of Gondal.
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I have had much pleasure in looking over the valuable collection of Mr. Vajeshanker; his collection of old Hindu coins is one of the best I have seen. It was also a great pleasure to have made his acquaintance.

January 7-98

D. D. DICKSON.

During my visit to Bhavnagar I was fortunate enough to inspect the valuable and well arranged collection of Indian antiquities belonging to Mr. Vajeshanker Gowrishaneer Oza the famous antiquarian of Kathiawad. It contains a very large number of impressions of ancient Sanskrit and Prakrit inscriptions copper-plates, grants, Mss. sculptures and coins which throw a considerable light on the early history of Mourya, Greek, Satavahan, Kshatrap. Gupta Vallabhi, Mihira, Gurjar, Chopotkata, Guhil Chalukya, Rashtrakuta, Paramara, Chahuan, Gudav, Kathi and other dynasties of Western India from B. C. 200 to A. D. 1400. It is very useful to archeologists and students of the early history of this country and is the best of all the private collections of this sort started by native scholars. Therefore this gentleman deserves the highest credit for preserving so valuable relics of the past glory of India. His extensive collection of fossils will also be very interesting to geologists.

Bhavnagar. }
14th. Feb. 1899 }

Gowrishanker Harichand Oza.
Antiquarian Udeypur state
Rajputana.

After inspecting the copper-plate grant which Mr. Vajeshanker brought I regret more then ever that time did not permit me too see his whole collection when I was at Bhavnagar. All these antiquities are of immense interest.

11 August 1899

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SANDHRST.

Governor of Bombay.

It gave me very great pleasure to be able to visit Mr. Vajeshanker this morning and I was deeply interested in all the specimens of curious collection which he showed me. He is himself an excellent specimen of the grand old school of genial self respecting native gentleman who adhere to the best traditions of the past. The Bhavnagar state is fortunate in possessing such a devoted servant of the people.

Sept. 8th. 1899 }

J. POLLEN.
L. L. D. I. C. S.

I had the pleasure of meeting the Divan Gowrishanker Udayshanker when I first came to India at Bhavnagar and it has afforded me much pleasure to make the the acquaintance of his son Vajeshanker and to examine his interesting collection of curiosities.

Sept. 13th. 99

W. H. CROME T. C. S.

The Divan Vajeshanker has during the last few years very much increased his interesting and valuable collection of antiquities. I trust he will go on collecting for; students must appreciate the good work.

25th. January 1900

E. H. PERCIVAL.

Elizabeth Percival.

A. Daniell.

Ress Daniell

13th, June 1900

In leaving this most interesting city and looking much on the pleasantest visit I have had in India I am still under the spell of the friendly family feeling that seems to exist amongst the officers of state headed by their most noble and enlightened chief His Highness the Maharaja Saheb but nothing more wonderful has come to me than the acquaintance and friendship accorded by H. E. Vajeshanker Gowrishanker the Divan Saheb introduced by Raja Ravivarma himself, one of the most noble natives. I have ever met; I have found in Vajeshanker Gowrishanker a personality that would be great in any land.

I have enjoyed his collections and many treasures, his circle of friends, and his kind hospitality, which will let others write of them and the many great names in this book testify to the widest appreciation. I will only speak of my deep appreciation of the owner and of the traditions of his sainted father both have made a deep and holy impression that will never be forgotten.

EDMUND RUSSELL.

New:York city

United States of America

April 12th 1901

I am much pleased to have had an opportunity of visiting this house with its interesting associations and the collection of valuable antiquarian relics which through Mr. Vajeshanker's zealous research has been made here: research which I trust may be continued by him and his successor.

December 2nd. 1907

E. C. K. Ollivant.

Member of council Bomay.

(Formerly Political Agent in Kathiawar)

It was our good fortune to find Mr. Vajeshanker and his family at Benares when we visited that city in November last and to receive from them much kindness and attention. We are therefore much delighted to hear on our arrival in Bhavnagar that they have returned home, and it has been our privilege and pleasure to visit Mr. Vajeshanker on two occasions at the house which is so closely associated with his distinguished father, and to make a careful examination of the coins and inscriptions which are the results of many years of labour and research and are of very great value to the student and archaeologist. The town of Bhavnagar is indeed fortunate in having in its midst a citizen like Mr. Vajeshanker who is an antiquarian as well as a politician and is always glad to welcome visitors from foreign countries.

Bhavnagar Feb. 28th. 1903

FRANCIS. W. PERCIVAL.

M. A. T. R. G. S.

Fellow of the society of
Antiquities of Londn etc.

ISABELLA PERCIVAL.

South Wick Place
London W.

Since my arrival in India in 1887 I have corresponded with Mr. Vajeshanker Gowrishanker and he has many times kindly indentified and named coins for me. After all these years it was therefore a very great pleasure to me to meet him for the first time the other day and I have seldom passed a pleasant afternoon than in visiting his house with its interesting association and in inspecting Mr. Vajeshanker's collection of coins, copper-plates, fossils etc. The pleasure of the visit was greatly increased by the kind and intelligent manner in which Mr. Vajeshanker and his son explained the history of the various objects in the museum.

Bhavnagar April 16th. 1906

F. W. WODEHOUSE.

MAJOR.

Political Agent

Gohelwad.

